

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
Transcriber's Office  
FLOOR DEBATE

February 21, 2003 LB 274

intention was that the notification or the information should be really provided to the end consumer, the ultimate consumer of the pet. And then also, it has a time line of when the dogs and cats need to be spayed or neutered. And he explained that too. So I guess at this time I would just like to turn the balance of my time back to Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Chambers, you have about nine minutes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And Mr. President, since the Chairman of the committee has reinforced what I've already said and there is not a great deal more to add, I just want to point out that in case there is not the ability of the facility to spay or neuter, the person who adopts the animal signs a written agreement to have this done by a certain date. And there are provisions for extensions if that is necessary. Or if, upon examination by a licensed veterinarian, a determination is made that spaying or neutering would be harmful to the animal's life, or life-threatening, that would not have to take place. So we require the spaying and neutering by these various facilities that are listed. But if there's a facility in an area and it's relatively small and they don't have the wherewithal to do the spaying or neutering themselves, they will obtain from the person adopting a signed statement agreeing to have this done within a period of time. It is so essential to have the sterilization occur, because of the large numbers of unwanted animals, which is growing daily. People will sometimes take an animal...maybe the individual is going to move, or for some reason grows weary...so the animal will just be abandoned, or taken out in the country and dumped, taken to a different neighborhood and dumped. If the animal has not been sterilized, there will be an abundance of puppies, and kittens if the animal is a cat, which will continue to proliferate the numbers of homeless, unwanted animals. When it comes to dogs, they will pack. And they can be a threat to human beings, to other animals, and in some cases to themselves, because of the conduct they engage in. Since we as human beings domesticate these animals, bring them into a setting controlled by human beings, we have an obligation and a responsibility to ensure that in acting in accord with their nature they do not create a